GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2312
ANSWERED ON:15.12.2004
BRINGING DOWN IMR/NMR
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up an inter-ministerial group to foster collaboration between the Integral Child Development Schemes and the Reproductive and Child Health Mission (RCHM)-II for bringing down the Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and the Neonatal Mortality Rate (NMR) as reported in the Hindu dated December 1,2004;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present infant mortality rate and the neo-natal mortality rate

(d) whether the IMR and /NMR in neighbouring countries is far low as compared to India ;

(e) if so, the effective steps taken by the Government to bring down IMR and NMR;

(f) the recommendations made in the recently concluded conference on IMR and NMR;

(g) whether these recommendations are proposed to be incorporated in the Mid Term Appraisal of Tenth Five Year Plan ; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) No such inter-ministerial group has been set-up, though the matter is coordinated between Integrated Child Development Schemes and the Reproductive and Child Health Mission as and when necessary.

(c) The present Infant Mortality Rate are 63 per 1000 live births and Neonatal Mortality Rate are 44 per 1000 live births (source : Sample Registration Survey of Registrar General of India 2002).

(d) & (e) No Sir, the IMR and NMR in neighbouring countries are not far low as compared to India. The IMR of china is 37, Bangadesh 64, Nepal 71, Pakistan 87, Sri Lanka 20, Myanmar 83 and Afghanistan 162 per 1000 live births. (Source: State of world population 2004).

Action being taken by the Department of Family Welfare to bring down IMR & NMR are:

(i) Control of deaths due to acute respiratory infections (ARI) and

(ii) Control of diarrhoeal diseases and

(iii) Provision of essential newborn care to address the issue of neonates.

(iv) Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), where immunization of children is carried out against six vaccine preventable diseases.

(f) The recommendations made in the recent concluded conference on IMR and NMR are

(i) Finalization of Integrated Management of neonatal and childhood illness (IMNCI) national strategy and plan for implementation.

(ii) National baseline survey.

(iii) Discussion among partners to develop specific action to support effective and accelerated implementation of National Child Health Strategy.

(iv) A government led formal mechanism made up of National and International partners committed to child survival to follow-up coordinated work at State level.

(v) Annual review of progress of child survival.

(vi) Predefine results outlined deliverables at district level pertaining to programme operations and management.

(vii) A set of key behavioral goals and results and a communication plan.

(viii) Inter-ministerial functional group between ICDS and RCH at National level.

(ix) System strengthening and quality improvement.

(g) & (h) No such decision has been taken.